

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition comprising an enteral complete feeding solution and from 0.05 to 1.0% by weight C₁₋₁₀-alkyl paraben in combination with 0.1-0.2% by weight of the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of benzoic and sorbic acids.
2. The composition of claim 1 having a pH is 3-8.
3. The composition of claim 1 having a pH is 2-6.9.
4. The composition of claim 1 having a pH>5.5.
5. The composition of claim 1 in which the alkyl paraben is methyl paraben
6. The composition of claim 1 in which the alkyl paraben is ethyl paraben.
7. The composition of claim 1 in which the alkyl paraben is propyl paraben.
8. The composition of claim 1 comprising 0.1-0.2% by weight alkyl paraben.
9. The composition of claim 1 comprising the sodium or potassium salts of benzoic and sorbic acids.
10. The composition of claim 1 further comprising a thickener in a concentration in the range of 0.50% to 12.0% by weight, wherein the thickener is xanthan gum or carrageenan.
11. An enteral feeding tube system comprising an enteral feeding tube and a composition of claim 1.
12. The system of claim 11 comprising methyl paraben and the sodium or potassium salts of benzoic and sorbic acids.

13. A method of inhibiting the growth of *Aspergillus niger*, *Candida albicans*, *Enterobacter cloacae*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Lactobacillus delbrueckii* in an enteral complete feeding solution which comprises adding to said solution a composition which comprises 0.05 to 1.0% by weight C₁₋₁₀-alkyl paraben in combination with 0.1-0.2% by weight of the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of benzoic and sorbic acids.

14. A method of claim 13 wherein the alkyl paraben is methyl or propyl paraben.

15. A method of claim 13 wherein the combination has a pH of 3-8 and comprises the sodium or potassium salts of benzoic and sorbic acids.

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